



STATE OF ARIZONA
EXECUTIVE OFFICE
FIFE SYMINGTON
Governor

NEWS RELEASE

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STATEMENT BY GOVERNOR SYMINGTON FOLLOWING HIS MEETING WITH TRIBAL LEADERS

May 21, 1992

My meeting with Tribal leaders was very cordial and productive.

The ten day cooling off period has been very beneficial. It allowed us to avert any senseless violence and to fully review compromises that have been put forward.

The issue of Indian sovereignty has always been one of my highest considerations. Following my discussion with the Tribal Leaders and after much study and discussion over the past ten days, I have reached the following conclusions based on what I feel are in Arizona's best interests:

- * My Office will accelerate on-going compact negotiations. It is my hope that a complete final compact agreement can be forwarded to the Tribes within the next two weeks for their review.
- * The current level of gaming operations on the reservations should be allowed to continue.
- * I do not favor any expansion of the current level of gaming operations on the reservations.
- * I remain opposed to such gaming operations off the reservations. I remain opposed to "Las Vegas" casino gambling in Arizona.
- * I am considering the formation of a special advisory committee to assist the acceleration of the on-going compact negotiations. The committee will be comprised of legislators, the A.G.'s office, appropriate outside expertise and, of course, the Governor's Office.
- * The expected Federal District Court decision next Thursday will impact our continuing negotiations. The Court has decided to accelerate its decision-making process. In February, the Yavapai and the State asked the court for a quick summary judgement to decide this complex issue. In addition, we have continued to meet with the Tribes and have actively sought to negotiate the State's role in regulatory, security, and licensing procedures.

I thank the Tribal leaders for meeting with me today. Our continuing discussions will benefit all of the residents in our state.

Lastly, I have forwarded a proposed draft outline of a compact settlement to the Tribes for their review.

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**Indian Tribes in attendance at Gaming Compact meeting
with Governor Fife Symington on May 21, 1992**

Cocopah Tribe - Dale Phillips, Chair
Somerton, Az

White Mountain Apache Tribe - Ronnie Lupe, Chair
Whiteriver, Az

Mohave-Apache Tribal Council - Clinton Pattea, President
Fountain Hills, Az

Pascua Yaqui Tribe - Arcadio Gastelum, Chair
Tucson, Az

San Carlos Apache Tribe - Raleigh Thompson, Chair
San Carlos, Az

Tohono O'Odham Tribe - Josiah Moore, Chair
Sells, Az

Tonto Apache Tribe - Louise Lopez, Chair
Payson, Az

Yavapai Prescott Indian Community - Patricia McGee, President
Prescott, Az

Quechan Tribal Council - Fritz Brown, President
Yuma, Az

Five Indian Tribes that were raided by the U.S. Attorney's Office 5/12/92:

Ft. McDowell - Mojave-Apache Tribe
Papago Bingo - Tohono O'Odham Tribe
Arizona Club - Pasqua Yaqui Tribe
Yavapai Bingo - Yavapai Prescott Indian Community
Tonto Apache Market - Tonto Apache Tribe